

Emil A. Tanagho et al.  
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PATENT

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

9. (Amended once) A method for the preparation of a bladder acellular matrix graft, comprising:

- (a) removing mucosa from an excised bladder tissue [cap] to provide a bladder wall;
- (b) treating the bladder wall with chemical and enzyme agents to release intracellular components from said bladder wall to provide an intermediate matrix; and
- (c) solubilizing and removing cell membranes and intracellular lipids from said intermediate matrix to provide a bladder acellular matrix graft.

--24. (New) An insoluble elastic matrix graft for repairing ureter or urethra smooth muscle having the following properties:

- (i) the matrix graft is derived from ureter or urethra smooth muscle tissue;
- (ii) the matrix graft is impermeable to urine;
- (iii) the matrix graft consists essentially of an intact framework of collagen and elastic fibers that is free of cell contents; and,
- (iv) the framework permits growth of muscle cells within the framework.--